

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /074 W

-----260303Z 102070 /20

R 251325Z MAR 77

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4429

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

COMIDEASTFOR

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0254

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, ET

SUBJECT: SECOND DIVISION

REF: ASMARA 0235 (DTG 211410Z MAR 77)

1. FREQUENCY OF CONVOY RUNS TO MASSAWA HAS SETTLED INTO A PATTERN OF ABOUT 3 PER WEEK, TAKING TWO DAYS TO COMPLETE ONE ROUND-TRIP. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVEN ROUND-TRIPS IN THE TWO WEEKS SINCE CONVOYS STARTED.

2. AS A RESULT, MOGAS SALES ARE NORMAL. KEROSENE IS BECOMING PLENTIFUL; RATION COUPONS ARE SELDOM REQUIRED.

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3. EFFECTIVE MARCH 21, EAL REARRANGED AND INCREASED ITS FLIGHT FREQUENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL SERVICE TO AND FROM ASMARA. NOW

4 WEEKLY FLIGHTS NORTHWARD FROM ADDIS ARE ON SAT, MON, TUES, AND WED; AND FIVE WEEKLY FLIGHTS SOUTHWARD FROM EUROPE AND ASIA THROUGH ASMARA ARE ON MON, TUES, WED (2), AND THURS.

EAL DISTRICT AND REGIONAL MANAGERS HAVE BEEN TRYING SINCE LAST NOVEMBER TO RESTORE SEMBLANCE OF FORMER AIR SERVICE THROUGH ASMARA

AND SEEM TO HAVE SUCCEEDED. CURRENT ADEQUACY OF AVGAS STOCKS IN ASMARA PROBABLY CONTRIBUTED TO DECISION.

4. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO CONCLUSIVE PROOF YET OF WHAT CONDITIONS OR PROMISES WERE GIVEN TO SECOND DIVISION TROOPS TWO WEEKS AGO (MARCH 11) TO REGAIN THEIR COOPERATION, ESPECIALLY ON CONVOY RUNS, BUT GENERAL BELIEF IN TOWN, ELICITED FROM VARIOUS SOLDIER CONTACTS, INCLUDES FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- A) PER DIEM FOR CONVOY ESCORT DUTY;
- B) INCREASE IN WIDOW BENEFIT FROM US\$2500 TO US\$5000; AND
- C) RELEASE AND RETURN TO ASMARA OF 30-MAN SOLDIER DELEGATION HELD IN ADDIS SINCE JANUARY 1977.

IN ADDITION, THERE IS WIDESPREAD BELIEF THAT TROOPS RECEIVED SOME SORT OF PROMISE RELATED TO ROTATION, BUT WHETHER THIS WOULD BE ON INDIVIDUAL OR UNIT BASIS IS UNCERTAIN. IN ANY CASE, THERE IS NO INDICATION YET THAT ANY ROTATION HAS STARTED.
SLUTZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, TRUCKS, HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ASMARA00254
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770103-1003
Format: TEL
From: ASMARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770324/aaaaauat.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 499661b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ASMARA 235
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3002217
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECOND DIVISION
TAGS: MILI, ET
To: STATE ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/499661b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009